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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Polish Administered Area of Germany

25X1

DATE: 25X1

SUBJECT Poland Urges Germans to Settle in Silesia

DATE: 5 May 1947

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ORIGIN

25X1

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

DISTRIBUTION

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25X1 1. During January and February 1947 a delegation of Polish officers, most of them majors and colonels, visited the areas around Cottbus (A57), Senftenberg (A34), and Forst (A77) and made "recruiting speeches" to the German civilian population. The purpose of these speeches, which apparently had the approval of the SMA, was to persuade German civilians to move to the Polish administered areas of Germany, and particularly to Silesia.

2. On 8 February a speech of this sort was given in Gross Räschken by Lt Col Szmygalla, who explained that "the Poles intend to cooperate with all loyal-minded Germans who are friendly toward Poland and to give them a part in the great work of reconstruction which Poland has begun." He added that arrangements are now being made for "Germans of good will" to settle in Upper Silesia and in the Waldenburg (H07) region of Lower Silesia as early as March of this year. Germans of proven reliability are to receive, in addition to their work in the mining communities, between ten and fifteen morgen of land and a guarantee that they will be well treated. Following Szmygalla's speech, a Polish propaganda film was shown and an announcement was made that all Germans interested in the transfer could sign up on the various lists the following morning.

25X1 3. [redacted] there was a great rush among the Germans to sign up. However, as the questionnaires were being filled out, it became clear that the Poles were primarily interested in Germans who, after World War I, had left the areas now occupied by the Poles and settled around Cottbus, Senftenberg and Forst. These persons were given special assurance that their applications would be considered and they were instructed to hold themselves in readiness for transfer early in March.

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NO CHANGE in Class.

1. DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS

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Date: 1 APR 1978 By [redacted]

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